

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Give the Gift of Laughter**

(MAHWAH, NJ) -The Center for Innovative and Professional Learning at Ramapo College suggests the gift of laughter this holiday season. Community members are invited to purchase a Comedy Workshop as a gift for friends and family who are at least 18 years of age.

The workshop will be held on six Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m., beginning January 30, 2013 in the Ramapo College Anisfield School of Business, Seminar Room ASB-522. Registration for the workshop is now open at [www.ramapo.edu/cipl/workshops/comedy.html](http://www.ramapo.edu/cipl/workshops/comedy.html).

"Humor is therapeutic," said comedy workshop instructor and agent Peggy Boyce. "Even if you or your loved one have no intention of ever getting up on stage, learning how to turn everyday life experiences into comedy routines can give one a new perspective on life."

In the workshop, Boyce presents to her students the proven methods for making people laugh and how to create personal comedic routines from everyday life experiences. Students study other working comedians' styles, discover how to harvest their own comedy material, and practice developing their own comic voice. The workshop includes a combination of writing and performance exercises designed to turn everyday observations into punch lines. Techniques covered include comparisons, similes, mimicking, list making, and more. Family and friends are invited to a final day performance.

The 2013 Comedy Workshop dates are: January 30, February 6, 13 and 27, and March 6. March 13 is scheduled as a make-up snow day. Registration fees are \$295. Registration is completed online through the "Register Online" button on the Web site. Payment may be made directly online with a credit card, or a check made out to "Ramapo College of New Jersey" may be sent to: Center for Innovative and Professional Learning (A-233), Ramapo College of NJ, 505 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430.

Boyce has been a part of the comedy scene for more than 20 years, first as a comedian, then as a producer, promoter, and publicist, and now as an agent. Many of Boyce's students have been featured in comedy clubs and festivals in the New York metropolitan area, including Stand-Up New York, Gotham Comedy Club and The Improv. She is the creator and producer of the Ladies of Laughter and Lower Hud's Funniest series.

For more information about the Comedy Workshop, please visit [www.ramapo.edu/cipl/workshops/comedy.html](http://www.ramapo.edu/cipl/workshops/comedy.html), or call the Ramapo College Center for Innovative and Professional Learning at (201) 684-7370.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers six graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

The Ramapo College of New Jersey Center for Innovative and Professional Learning (CIPL) supports postgraduate professional education, workforce development, and alternative learning. The Center also engages in internal and external educational partnerships to advance the College, and provides innovative continuous learning opportunities for community members of all ages.